

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the thorough examination of the present application as evidenced by the Office Action of October 18, 2007. Applicant has amended independent Claims 47, 66, 67 and 86 to include subject matter set out on page 5, lines 27-37 of the present application. Applicant has also amended dependent Claims 52, 54, 59, 61-62, 72, 74, 79, and 81-82 to conform to the amendments to the independent claims. Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are patentable over the cited combinations for at least the reasons discussed herein.

The Section 112 Rejections

Claims 47-86 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 , first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. *See* Office Action, page 2. In particular, the Office Action states that independent Claims 47, 66, 67 and 86 recite a "selection device" which cannot be found in the specification. *See* Office Action, page 3. Applicant respectfully submits that a selection device as recited in the claims is supported by the specification for at least the reasons discussed herein.

In particular, Claim 47 recites:

A method of connecting a plurality of devices to a common accessory, comprising:

receiving a first selection signal, **at the common accessory from a selection device remote from the common accessory**, configured to highlight a first output indicia that is specifically associated with one of the plurality of devices on the common accessory such that the highlighted first output indicia is observable by a user of the common accessory and the one of the plurality of devices; ...

As discussed throughout the specification a first output indicia is highlighted on the common accessory using, for example, one of the plurality of devices (a selection device). Thus, according to some embodiments of the present invention the selection device can be one of the plurality of devices. In further embodiments, the selection device may be separate from the plurality of devices and the common accessory. *See* Specification, page 4, lines 15-35. Applicant chose the term "selection device" to indicate the device that is making the selection, *See* original claim 2, for example. For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that

the pending claims are in compliance with Section 112 and, therefore, respectfully request that the section 112 rejections be withdrawn.

The Section 103 Rejections

Claims 47-86 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over X in view of X. See Office Action, page 3. Applicant is confused as to what "X" represents as "X" is not defined in the Office Action. However, United States Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0032460 A1 to Cannon *et. al.* (hereinafter "Cannon") and United States Patent No. 6,675,006 B1 to Diaz *et al.* (hereinafter "Diaz") are referred to throughout the Office Action (*See* Office Action, pages 3-8), therefore, Applicant assumes Cannon and Diaz replace the X's. Claims 55-62 and 75-83 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cannon in view of Diaz in further view of United States Patent Publication No. 2002/0173347 to Kinnunen. *See* Office Action, page 8. Applicant has amended the claims as discussed below and, therefore, submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance for at least the reasons discussed herein.

In particular, responsive to Applicant's Arguments, the Office Action identifies subject matter at page 5, lines 27-37 of the present application as containing patentable subject matter. *See* Office Action, page 2. Accordingly, to expedite allowance of the present application, Applicant has amended the independent claims to include the subject matter discussed at page 5, lines 27-37 of the present application. For example, Claim 47 has been amended to recite:

wherein ones of the plurality of devices are associated with a predetermined order of priority; and

wherein establishing a connection comprises establishing a connection between the one of the plurality of devices and the common accessory based on the predetermined order of priority such that a connection between a device having a highest predetermined priority and the common accessory is established first if the device having the highest predetermined priority is present and a connection between a device having a next highest predetermined priority and the common accessory is established if the device having the highest predetermined priority is not present.

Independent Claims 66, 67 and 86 have been amended to include similar recitations.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claims 47, 66, 67 and 86 and

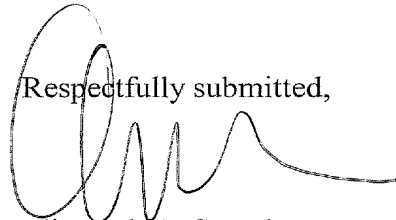
the claims that depend therefrom are patentable over the cited references for at least the reasons stated in the Office Action at page 2.

Applicant has amended the present application as set out above to expedite allowance of the present application and, therefore, these amendments should not be construed as Applicant's agreement with any of the statements in the Office Action.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims are in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested in due course. Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (919) 854-1400.

Respectfully submitted,

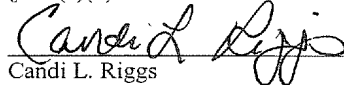


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CERTIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4) to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on January 7, 2008.



Candi L. Riggs